(2) Concerted efforts should be made to ensure that irrigation potential created is fully utilised. For this purpose, the command area development approach should be adopted in all irrigation projects.

(3) Irrigation being the largest consumer of fresh water, the aim should be to get optimal productivity per unit of water. Scientific water management, farm practices and sprinkler and drip system of irrigation should be adopted wherever feasible.

(4) The resources should be conserved and the availability augmented by measures for maximizing retention, eliminating pollution of minimizing losses. For this, measures like selective linings in the conveyance system, modernization and rehabilitation of existing system including tanks, recycling and re-use of treated effluents and adoption of traditional techniques like malching or pitcher irrigation and new techniques like drip and sprinkler may be promoted, wherever feasible.

(5) Non-conventional methods for utilisation of water such as through inter-basin transfers, artificial recharge of ground water and desalination of brackish or sea water as well as traditional water conservation practices like rainwater harvesting need to be practiced to further increase the utilizable water resources.

Preservation of tanks in Karnataka

2518. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tanks are vanishing in Karnataka due to encroachment, siltation and expiration of cities;

(b) if so, the details of tanks vanished during the last three years in the State; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to preserve the tanks and the amount required for preservation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Since irrigation is a State

subject, the responsibility of maintenance etc. of the tanks primarily rests with the concerned State Government.

(b) During the last 3 years, following 6 tanks were disused due to expansion of cities and siltation.

Sl. No.	Name of the Tank	District
1.	Madanahalli Tank in Gowribidanur Taluk	Kolar
2.	Devanur Tank	Mysore
3.	Agara Tank	Bangalore(U)
4.	Jakkeri Honda Tank	Belgaum
5.	Mudenur Tank	Belgaum
6.	Bijagutti Tank	Belgaum

(c) The Government of Karnataka is taking steps to improve the tanks with the involvement of Water User's Societies and subsequent handing over to them for maintenance. Tank improvement schemes are being envisaged separately for individual tanks.

Irrigation relations between Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra

2519. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government play any role in inter-State joint venture for irrigation project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to encourage and boost the irrigation relation between Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra who have decided to implement Lendi Project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) The concerned State Governments themselves discuss and finalise Inter-State Irrigation Projects as a joint venture. The Union Government when requested by the State Governments acts as a facilitator to